

**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A power converter comprising:
  - a rectifier arrangement ( $D1-D4$ ) having inputs coupled to AC power supply terminals;
  - a pair of series-connected capacitors ( $C1, C2$ ) coupled across output terminals of the rectifier arrangement;
  - a switch ( $S1$ ) coupled between one of said AC power supply terminals and a midpoint of the pair of series-connected capacitors, the switch being open if a first AC voltage is applied to the AC power terminals, and the switch being closed if a second AC voltage is applied to the AC power terminals, the first AC voltage exceeding the second AC voltage; and
  - an overvoltage protection circuit ( $D5, R30, D6$ ) coupled between at least one of the inputs of the rectifier arrangement and the midpoint of the pair of series-connected capacitors.
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A power converter as claimed in claim 1, the overvoltage protection circuit ( $D5, R30, D6$ ) comprising a series connection of zener diodes having opposite conductivity directions.
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A power converter as claimed in claim 2, the overvoltage protection circuit ( $D5, R30, D6$ ) further comprising a resistor ( $R30$ ) in series with the zener diodes.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A power converter as claimed in claim 1, further comprising diodes ( $D7, D8$ ) each connected parallel to a corresponding one of the capacitors.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A power converter as claimed in claim 2, the overvoltage protection circuit comprising resistors ( $R50, R60$ ) connected in parallel to the zener diodes ( $D5, D6$ ).

6. (ORIGINAL) A power converter as claimed in claim 1, the overvoltage protection circuit being coupled across the switch.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A power converter as claimed in claim 1, the overvoltage protection circuit (~~D5, R30, D6~~) comprising a first branch between the midpoint and a first one of the rectifier arrangement inputs, and a second branch between the midpoint and a second one of the rectifier arrangement inputs.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A power converter as claimed in claim 7, each branch comprising a series connection of a diode (~~D9, D10~~) and a zener diode (~~D5, D6~~) having opposite conductivity directions.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A power converter as claimed in claim 8, the overvoltage protection circuit comprising resistors (~~R50, R60~~) connected in parallel to the zener diodes (~~D5, D6~~).